

Appn No. 10/815,640
Amdt. Dated May 12, 2006
Response to Final Office Action of April 6, 2006

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of limiting communication between an application and a user, via a sensing device interacting with machine-readable coded data printed on a surface, the method comprising the steps, performed in a computer system, of:
 - (a) receiving interaction data representing the interaction of the sensing device with the coded data, the interaction data enabling identification of the application;
 - (b) transmitting information based on at least some of the interaction data to the application; and
 - (c) allocating and recording a unique reply code for the transmitted information, said reply code having a predetermined maximum number of reply transmissions associated therewith, thereby enabling transmission of up to a predetermined number of electronic messages from the application to the user.
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein step (c) includes the steps of: incrementing a contact count for each electronic message sent from the application to the user; and preventing transmission of further electronic messages once the contact count reaches a predetermined maximum value
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein maximum value is one.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the maximum value is zero.
5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the maximum value is set by the user.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the maximum value is set by the user through interaction of the sensing device with the ~~printed competition entry form~~coded data, the method including the steps of receiving, in the computer system, data indicative of the maximum value from the sensing device.
7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the data indicative of the maximum value ~~is~~is indicative of the sensing device having been used to interact with the ~~printed competition entry form~~to check a box or indicate a selection of the maximum value determined by the user ~~by checking a box on the surface~~.
8. – 10. (Cancelled).

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11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including the steps, performed in the computer system, of:
- assigning an alias ID to the user; and
 - transmitting the alias ID to the application with the information based on the interaction data, thereby maintaining anonymity of the user with respect to the application.

12. – 13.(Cancelled).

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic message is indicative of any one or more of the following:
- a confirmation of receipt of the interaction data; and
 - a response based on the interaction data received in the computer system;

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the surface is a product label including includes human-readable information.

16. – 18. (Cancelled).

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the machine-readable coded data is substantially invisible to a human.

20. (Currently Amended) A system for: enabling an user to enter a competition; and limiting subsequent communication between a application and the user; via a sensing device interacting with machine-readable coded data printed on a surface, the system comprising a computer system configured and programmed to:

- (a) receive interaction data representing the interaction of the sensing device with the coded data;
- (b) transmit information based on the interaction data to the application; and
- (c) allocate and record a unique reply code for the transmitted information, said reply code having a predetermined maximum number of reply transmissions associated therewith, thereby enabling transmission of up to a predetermined number of electronic messages from the application to the user.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the computer system is configured and programmed to enable the transmission of up to the predetermined number of electronic messages by: incrementing a contact count for each electronic message sent from the application to the user; and preventing transmission of further electronic messages once the contact count reaches a predetermined maximum value

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein maximum value is one.

23. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the maximum value is zero.

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24. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the maximum value is set by the user.
25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 24, wherein the maximum value is set by the user through interaction of the sensing device with the ~~printed-computation entry form~~coded data, the computer system being configured and programmed to receive data indicative of the maximum value from the sensing device.
26. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein the data indicative of the maximum value is ~~is determined by the user checking a box on the surface, indicative of the sensing device having been used to interact with the surface to check a box or indicate a selection of the maximum value.~~
27. (Cancelled).
28. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the surface includes human-readable information, the interaction data representing interaction of the sensing device with the human-readable information such that at least some of the coded data coincident or adjacent the human-readable information is sensed during the interaction.
29. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the coded data relates to an identity of the surface, and the interaction data is indicative of the identity.
30. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 20, wherein the ~~form-surface~~ includes one or more of: information fields that show information about the surface; button fields that generate one or more actions in the computer system when interacted with by the sensing device; and entry fields for receiving user input through interaction of the sensing device with the entry fields; the interaction data representing interaction of the sensing device with the one or more fields.
31. – 35. (Cancelled).
36. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the computer system includes a page server configured and programmed to convert the interaction data to form data, and to transmit the form data to the application.
37. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the computer system includes a netpage registration server configured and programmed to identify the user and to allocate an alias ID to maintain anonymity of the user.
38. (Original) The system of claim 20, further comprising an internet-accessible location for posting the electronic messages, the electronic messages being accessible to the user via the location.

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39. (Original) A surface including coded data and human-readable information, configured for use in the method of claim 1 or the system of claim 20.